IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroyuki KUNUGI

Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: 02/10/2004

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of a document known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed document is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Document A1 discloses an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, wherein a recessed portion is provided on a front cover of the main body, such that the user can hook the fingers thereon when opening/closing the front. This document also discloses an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, wherein the width of the recessed portion provided on the front cover is about 65 to 75 mm.

An English translation of the foreign-language document is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date February 10, 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT					Application Number	Unassigned			
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Data Culturittadi Fahruani 10, 2004				10. 2004	First Named Inventor	Hiroyuki KUNUGI			
Date Submitted: February 10, 2004			10, 2004	Group Art Unit	Unassigned				
(use as many sheets as necessary)					Examiner Name	Unassigned			
Sheet		1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	016907-1597			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent	Document	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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	A1 _	JP	2001-117302	Α	HITACHI LTD.	04-27-2001		Abstract	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶				
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. 2See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.